

Food Safety ConnectED



AFDOSS ANNUAL EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE

Food Safety ConnectED

Building the people who protect the food supply

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Today's conversation

The problem • The response • Your role

**Why the shortage
matters**

**What I kept
seeing**

**What the grant
builds**

**How you
can help**

A workforce shortage becomes a food-safety problem

Fewer people. Less prevention. Slower response.

**REGULATORY
CAPACITY**

LESS PREVENTION

**INDUSTRY
CAPACITY**

LESS EXPERTISE

**FUTURE
CAPACITY**

FEWER RECRUITS

A career pipeline is prevention infrastructure

Three things move people toward the field

See the work

Practice the work

Meet the people

Visibility • Experience • Relationships



Why the shortage persists

**NO SINGLE,
VISIBLE ON-RAMP**

Three barriers

Careers are hidden

**Entry routes are
fragmented**

Retention is difficult

Make the path visible—and real.

What I kept seeing

A promising field with a hidden path

**Careers
arrive late**

**Pathways feel
fragmented**

**Practice
arrives late**

**Access is
uneven**

**Next steps
are unclear**

That became the case for Food Safety ConnectED.

Awareness is not enough

Careers become real through experience

SHOW

PRACTICE

MEET



Strong work already exists

The field has valuable assets

Training + credentials

Field experience



Connect the pieces.

Food Safety ConnectED connects the pathway

USDA Higher Education Project

**Career-linked
curriculum**

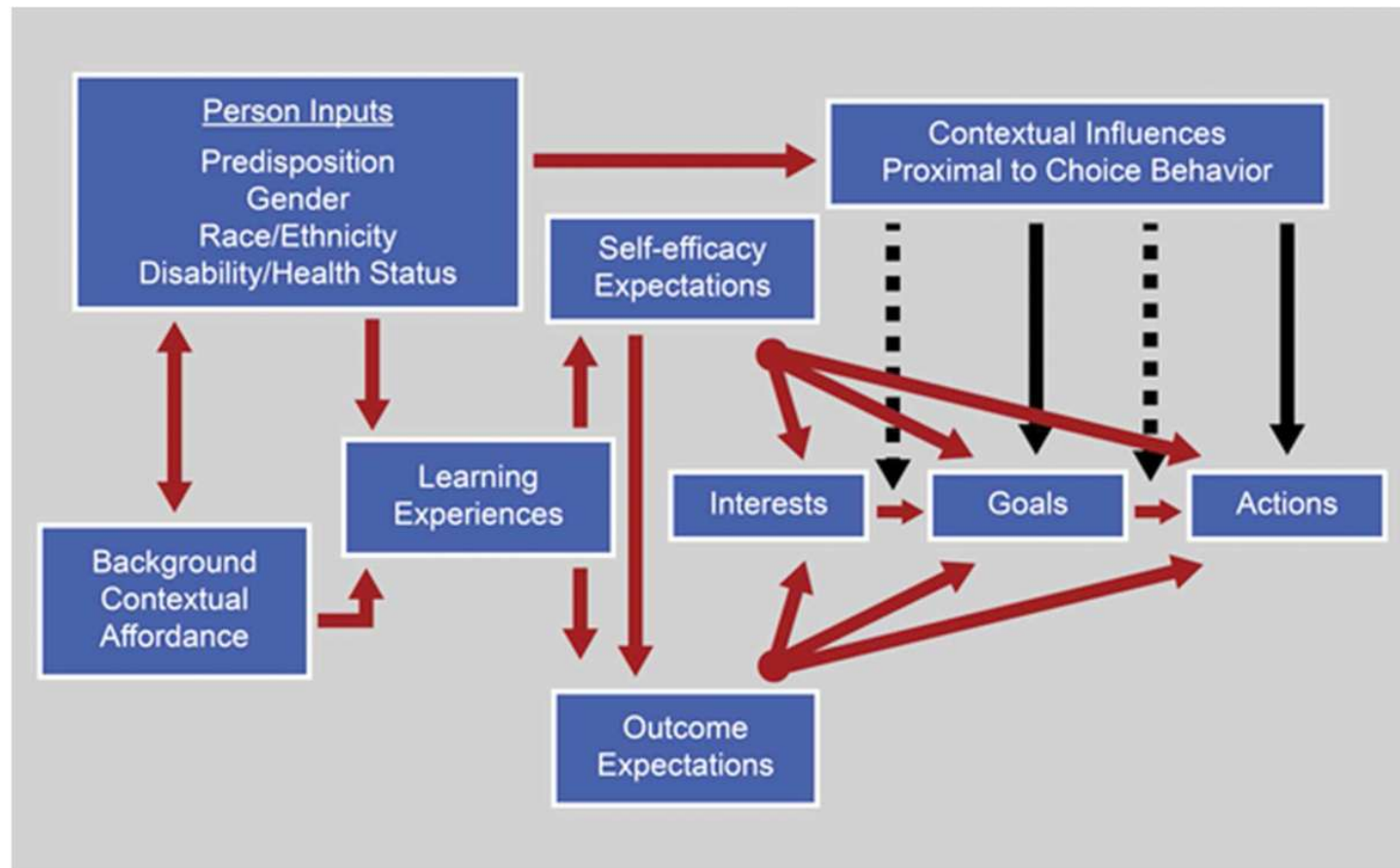
**Educator
capability**

**Mentor
network**

**Career
campaign**

Experience can become career action

SUPPORTS + BARRIERS



The curriculum: 15 applied modules

Knowledge → practice → career awareness

**OVERSIGHT
+ CAREERS**

MODULES 1–4

**AUDIT
FOUNDATIONS**

MODULES 5–6

**PREREQUISITE
PROGRAMS**

MODULES 7–11

**FACILITIES
+ CONTROLS**

MODULES 12–15

Modules 1–6

See the system. Learn the work.

AUDIT + INSPECT
MODULE 1

OVERSIGHT
MODULES 2–4

EVALUATION • MODULES 5–6



Modules 7–15

Practice everyday controls

PEOPLE + SANITATION
MODULES 7–8

PESTS + EQUIPMENT
MODULES 9–11

FACILITIES • MODULES 12–15



Five institutions launch this fall

NC State • Mississippi State • Guelph • Illinois • Rutgers

LAUNCH

RECRUIT

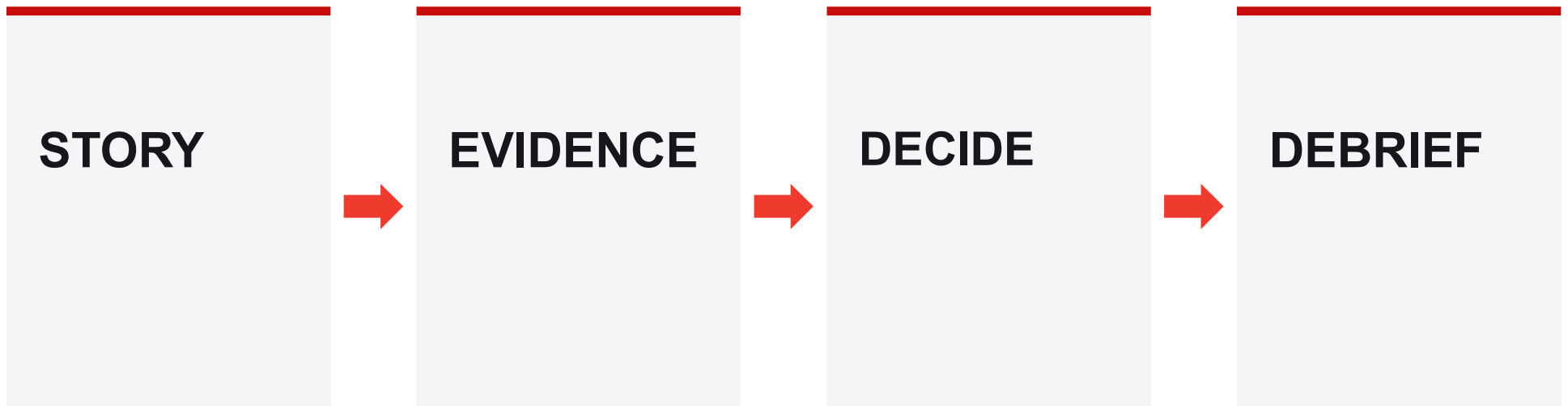
EXPERIENCE

SHADOW

SCALING MODEL Deploy → learn → strengthen → recruit

A simple learning architecture

Every step requires food-safety reasoning



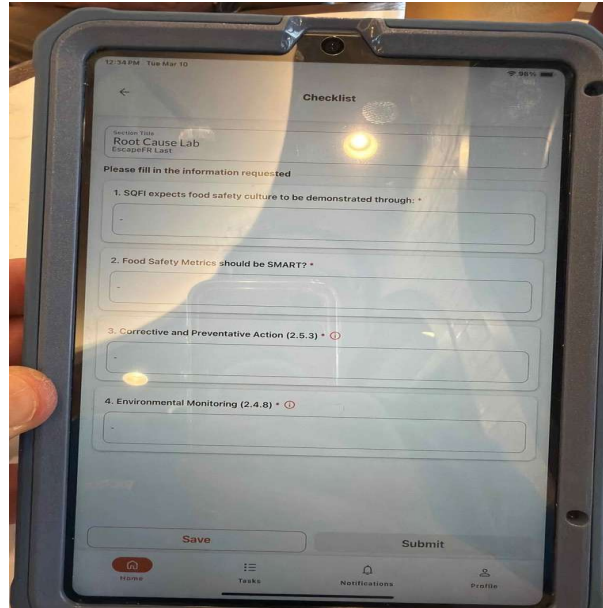
Debrief turns excitement into judgment.

Learning by doing

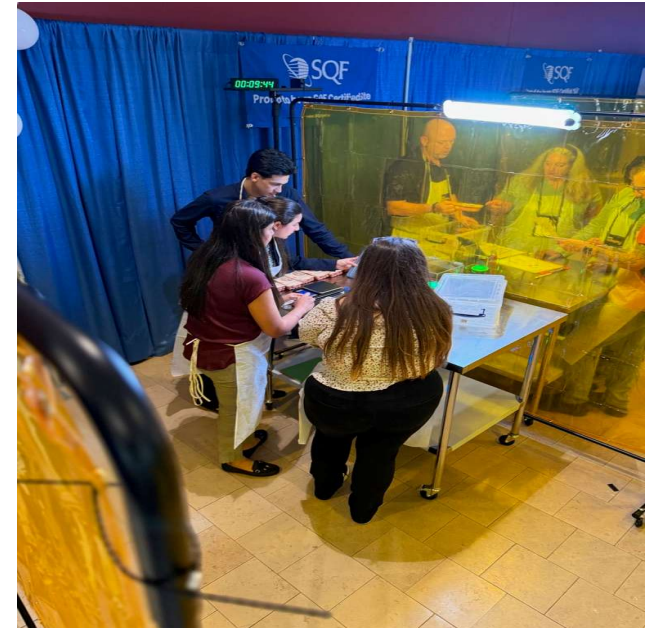
Cases • scenarios • 360° exploration • practice



CASE



SCENE



PRACTICE

FOOD SAFETY SCENE • INVESTIGATE • SOLVE • ESCAPE

OBSERVE

REVIEW

DECIDE

Compromised!? food-safety escape room

Watch the concept in action.

Separate from the grant.

PLAY VIDEO

youtu.be/ob27K4vVAyA

The game must serve the learning

Make thinking visible—and memorable

RETRIEVAL

FEEDBACK

TEAMWORK

INVESTMENT

DESIGN TEST

Knowledge
cannot
be optional.

Awareness needs a next step

Show it. Humanize it. Make action possible.

**Show the
mission**

**Show the
work**

**Introduce
the people**

**Offer a
next step**

Build educator capability

Educator inspection experience

Student shadow inspections

Realistic cases

Professional debriefs

One experience can multiply across a classroom.

Make the next step easier

Food Safety Mentor Network Portal

Students + educators

Speakers • mentors • tours •
shadowing

Food-safety professionals

Share • host • answer • guide

ifpti.org/food-safety-connected



Four ways AFDOSS can help

Recruit an educator

Build educator capability

Support student shadowing

Amplify the campaign

Who is the next educator we should reach?

Keep building your food-safety skills

Available via FOODSAFETY.NCSU.EDU and IFPTI

HACCP

GMPs

**SANITATION
ESSENTIALS**

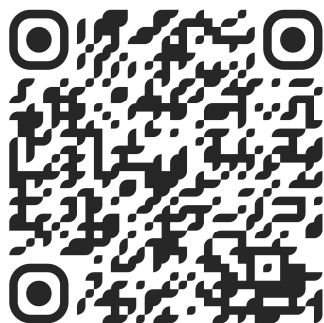
**ENVIRONMENTAL
MONITORING**

Open a door

Help the next cohort see—and enter—the field.

CONNECT AN EDUCATOR

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SHARE YOUR EXPERTISE

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